

**Alaska Board of Game
2003-142-BOG**

**A Resolution of the Alaska Board of Game Concerning a
Statewide Bear Baiting Ballot Initiative**

WHEREAS, A ballot initiative that would prohibit bear baiting has been offered, and

WHEREAS, Black bear baiting as a method of take is not in any way a biological issue; and

WHEREAS, The Alaska Board of Game has adopted regulations to reduce conflicts with other users, including a prohibition near trails, certain waterways, residences and other facilities, as well as a requirement that bait station sites be cleaned up at the end of the hunting season; and

WHEREAS, According to Alaska Department of Fish and Game, there is no evidence or data to suggest that there is a correlation between bear baiting and occurrence of food-conditioned bears near human habitation; and

WHEREAS, Alaska Department of Fish and Game reports that areas in Alaska where black bear baiting is most commonly practiced are among those with the lowest incidence of bear nuisance complaints; and

WHEREAS, Restriction of the bear baiting method of take is a valuable wildlife resource management tool;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Alaska Board for Game, at their regular meeting in Anchorage, November 4, 2003 urges the defeat of the ballot initiative,

AND FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Alaska Board of Game reiterates its continued opposition to the use of ballot initiatives for managing wildlife and wildlife use allocations.

Vote: _____
November 4, 2003
Anchorage, Alaska

Mike Fleagle, Chair
Alaska Board of Game